



JUN

Rock Root & Trail

2022

The newsletter for
supporters of CFPA

Multiply your impact.

1
SURVEY

2-3
LEGISLATIVE END

3
TRAIL REPAIR

4
MONTHLY GIVING



You & Kate Plus ~~8~~ 95 ?!

That is the power of **YOU** to make trails safe.

You take them for granted—until they are gone. The way they uplift you and help you to be a better person. To be more informed.

It is the bog bridge that keeps your boots out of the mud. The bridge over a roaring stream. The kiosk with a map to guide you. The trail with water bars to prevent trail erosion.

Every year trail structures break or need to be built because of changing trail conditions. And thanks to your support every year, staff and volunteers get out on the trails to repair broken or build new structures. You are a hero to hikers across Connecticut.

Keeping
track of these

READ ABOUT ME INSIDE...! →

Your Roar Was Heard

Thank You for supporting CPFA's advocacy efforts.



11:59 PM on May 4th, 2022 marked the end of a hectic, ever-dangerous election year in CT's Legislature. Your voice of reason at the Capitol, Eric Hammerling, can sleep for the first time in months.

Good news! There were a series of legislative victories. Funding for State Park operations stayed intact with no diversions or exceptions to paying the reasonable \$5/year/vehicle "Passport to the Parks" fee.

Passport to the Parks now

generates \$20 million annually for the 110 Connecticut State Parks. You are sustaining underfunded parks.

And as a bonus, you no longer have to pay a parking fee (\$13.00) every time you visit a State Park. That fee elimination opens up parks to those who before could not afford to visit. Over 13 million people visit State Parks and the positive economic benefits help you and the community.

Good work, and remember CFPA's voice is your voice.

SOCIETY EXPOSED!

You wouldn't believe that the secret to conservation success is...art & fun!



That's right, art. The Winslow Society celebrated conservation through the Arts last month.

Members visited the New Britain Museum of American Art to view an exhibit of Hudson River School Paintings. They saw firsthand how nature inspires artists. And how artists conserve nature through their passion--just like the Winslow Society members!

For a monthly gift of \$84.00, you can join this committed group of conservation heroes. Why give monthly? Giving monthly conserves Connecticut for today *and* tomorrow. You create a greener Connecticut with the extra benefits of being a Society member. Benefits!

Declare your passion and start your giving today.
Visit ctwoodlands.org/

Thanks to the wonderful sponsors who make Trails Day a success:



EVERSOURCE



BURNS & MCDONNELL

Takes 2 to Tango & a Team to Tend

You are key to unlocking the power of the Blue-Blazed Hiking Trails.

The 825-miles of Blue-Blazed Hiking Trails that exist in 95 CT towns are a miracle. The current trail staff totals—get this—3!

That is a lot of trail for a small organization to repair. So how do your trails happen? Incredible, dedicated (often older) trail volunteers happen.

For every trail staff professional at CFPA, there are 41 volunteer trail managers. And even more trail volunteers who show up once, twice, or even several times a year to help trail managers.

Oh ... and You happen!

You are the key to unlocking the power of volunteers. **Your support is more important now than ever.**

Every time you give \$1, you unlock \$5 of volunteer power. That's the impact you will have this spring.



Your trails don't exist without volunteers—and you! Give now at ctwoodlands.org/donate.

Watch Out!!

Did you see that rock move?

...No wait, that is a turtle! Summer is fast approaching and turtles are on the move. But where are they going?

May through July is nesting season for many turtles. Both terrestrial and aquatic turtles are traversing the Connecticut landscape to find the perfect

Did you know that there are 8 species of turtles (not including 4 species of sea turtles) native to Connecticut?

location to lay their eggs.

Sometimes that quest takes them across perilous locations like roads. Remember to drive slow and watch out for turtle

crossings. If you see a turtle on the road and elect to move it, remember these key things:

- 1) Move a turtle only if it is **SAFE FOR YOU** to do so.
- 2) Move the turtle across the road in the direction it's facing.
- 3) Do not move the turtle to a new location.

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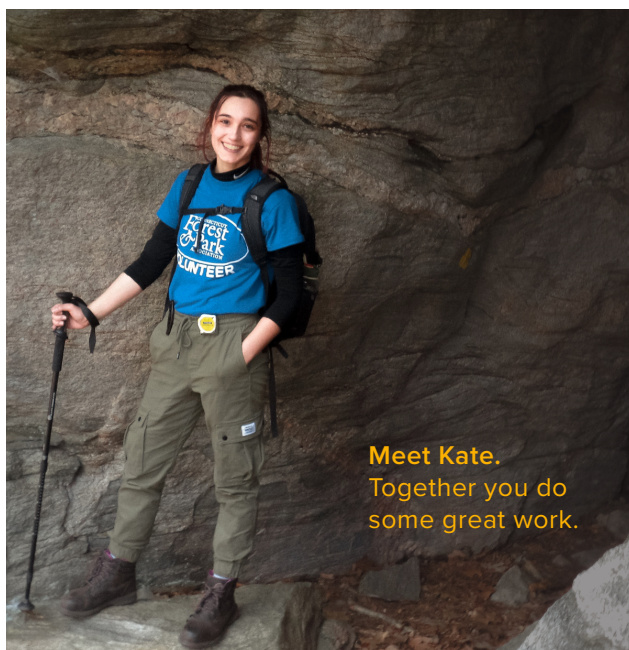
Thanks to your support, hikers can confidently and safely use trails.



Surveys help identify broken structures that need replacement.

structures is critical for safe trails. CFPA's Public Allies Land Stewardship Coordinator, Kate Chamberland, has been traversing the Blue-Blazed Trails for months counting and assessing structures. She alone went on (and

loved) 31 hikes and surveyed over 55 miles. That is 15 side trails and loops fully surveyed! Kate surveyed almost half the Mattatuck—the trail she has adopted.



Meet Kate.
Together you do some great work.

But her true legacy is the volunteer program she put together to leverage her efforts. 95 people have volunteered--some current CFPA volunteers, but many new ones. Kate put together everything. From a Zoom workshop to a training PowerPoint. To a document that goes into every crucial detail about being a trail survey volunteer. Her work will result in better and safer trails for you and future generations of hikers. Here is the winning formula:

**You (1) + Kate (1) + Volunteers (95) =
Safe Trails for All**